

REMARKS

The Examiner's indication that claims 46-72 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected based claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is noted with appreciation.

Claim 45 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 46 which places in condition for allowance claims 45, 47, 48, 50-52, 54, 55, 57-59, 61, 62, 64-66, 68, 69, 71 and 72.

Claims 73-78 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Baroni et al in view of United States Patent 6,488,117 (Owen). It is submitted that claim 73, as amended, is patentable for the reason that claim 73 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 46 of "each vibrator comprises means for further increasing coupling of the at least one vibrator with the at least one solid material, the means for further increasing coupling including anchor bars associated with at least one of the slabs." Furthermore, it is submitted that the proposed combination of Baroni et al and Owen do not teach the step of "sequentially controlling the vibrators by means of a control with time lags between respective triggering times that depend on intervals between locations of the vibrators and a velocity propagation of waves in the formations surrounding the well, so as to obtain a directive emission." This subject matter is not shown by the combined teachings of Baroni et al in view of Owen.

Claim 74 has been amended to designate the variable "i" as a subscript. Amendments have been made to the specification where appropriate to make the variable "i" a subscript.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that each of the claims in the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (612.44903X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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